

ABROAD

MANILA

The Worst Concern

President Corazon Aquino's efforts to neutralize Communist forces in the Philippines are well publicized. But another and quite separate guerrilla war is causing her government more concern for the long term, namely rebellion in the southern islands by the Moslem Moros. The Moros, the original inhabitants of the archipelago before the Spanish conquest, occupy the large island of Mindanao and surrounding islands in the Sulu Sea. After the Second World War, Christian migrants from the north flocked to Mindanao, and the 2.5 million Moros found themselves a minority. The autonomy that the central government is willing to give the Moros depends on the careful establishment of demographic balances in a number of the southern provinces. Last January, Nur Misauri, leader of the Moro National Liberation Front, struck an agreement with Manila to seek such a balance peacefully. There is a strong possibility, however, that Manila will also reach agreement with southern Moslems who do not share the intransigence of the MNLF and its leader. In that case, there is anxiety here that Misauri, who has Marxist-Leninist roots, may try to ally himself with the Communist leadership. There are already rumors circulating locally about MNLF guerrillas joining forces with Communist units.

CANTERBURY

Muffled Pilgrimage

In an age that doggedly celebrates the slightest literary landmark, it seems strange that the six-hundredth anniversary of Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* should have been almost ignored. No important sponsors could be found by English-literature enthusiasts to help commemorate that famous pilgrimage from Southwark to the cathedral where St. Thomas à Becket was murdered. Nevertheless, a small band of actors representing some of the most famous of Chaucer's pilgrims boarded a minibus bound for the shrine and stopped on the way to let the Miller, the Wife of Bath, the Pardoner, the Canon's Yeoman, and the Prioress tell their tales at appropriate points along the route. The British government, as one commentator observed, felt it unnecessary to bestow any recognition, not even issuing a postage stamp.

PARIS

Du côté de chez Lipp

Anyone who knows Paris knows the Brasserie Lipp. For generations, foreign visitors to St-Germain-des-Prés have dined and drunk there in the company of the cream of French politicians. Now its proprietor, Roger Cazes, has died at 73. He inherited the place from his father, and, fortunately, his nephew Michel is there to carry on. Lipp's clientele hopes that the great goblets of Alsatian beer and the plates of *choucroute*, which is an apotheosis of sauerkraut, will continue to satisfy the customers in the tiled art-nouveau dining room and on the sidewalk terrace. Cazes had a number of rules for his establishment, including a refusal to accept credit cards or checks. It was said that he sent noisy tourists upstairs to get them out of the way. But local notables also got the brush-off. On one oc-

casion, Prime Minister Laurent Fabius was turned away because, as Cazes said, there was no room.

ISTANBUL

Feminism Arrives

Close to two thousand women demonstrated in the streets of Istanbul in an unprecedented protest against male brutality. One in four Turkish wives is believed to suffer from battering by her husband. The demonstrators, cheered on by a large crowd, denounced the laxity of judges in domestic cases, claiming that "there is no difference in kind between conjugal violence and torture." The women were joined at one point by a group of hunger-striking transsexuals who were demonstrating against brutal treatment by the police and who have been backed by some of the big names of the Turkish stage and screen. Istanbul newspapers published on their front pages photographs of the transsexuals rendering homage at the mausoleum of Kemal Atatürk, the founder of modern Turkey.

CALDBECK

No Hounds in the Morning

This part of Cumberland in northwestern England is where John Peel sounded his horn in the mornings, well over a century ago. But no fox will ever wake from his lair to the sound of horse and hound if Labour Party politician Peter Phizacklea has his way. Labour has pledged to put an end to traditional fox hunting, and Phizacklea has used the political atmosphere of the British election to seek a local ban on the Caldbeck and Uldale ranges most frequented by Peel. Phizacklea says fox hunting is "a barbaric pastime" that should have been stamped out years ago. The fox hunters and shepherds of the surrounding districts maintain that fox hunting is the best and most humane way to keep down a population of predators that habitually attack and kill ewes and newborn lambs on the hillsides. Farmers say that some form of fox hunting would go on, no matter what the regulations might be, out of concern for their own livelihoods.



"Enough, madam. I hadn't bargained for anyone so opinionated."

Scully, Punch / Rothco

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